



24. April. 1643.

WHeras the Lords and Commons in Parliament have made an Ordinance for the more strict and solemn keeping of the dayes of publike Fast, which are not by all persons duly observed, even in these times of publike calamity, to the great dishonour of God, and the contempt of the Authority of both Houses of Parliament. Now that more particular notice may be given unto all such as shall offend herein, before any exemplary punishment be inflicted upon them; It is ordered by the Commons now assembled in Parliament, That all Constables (or their Deputies) shall the day before every publike Fast, repair to every House within their severall and respective liberties, and charge all persons, That they strictly observe the Fast, according to the directions in the said Ordinance.

And they shall upon the said dayes of the publike Fast, walk through their said liberties, diligently searching for, and taking notice of all persons, who either by following their work of their calling, or sitting in Taverns, Victualling or Alehouses, or any other wayes shall not duly observe the same; And they are hereby required to return the Names of all such persons as they shall finde so offending, as also such Informations as they shall receive against any other persons within their liberties, guilty of the like offence unto the Committee for Examinations, that so they may be proceeded against for the contempt of the said Ordinance; And all Constables are to observe these directions from time to time, so long as the said publike Fast shall be kept, without expecting any further Order.

*H: Elsyng, Cler. Parl. D. Com.*

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